

Financial Consulting Services
RFP HSR10-04
Questions

1. What do you know about the HSR program and do you see the FA team playing a role in the success of the program?
2. As the Authority's Financial Advisers, describe how your team expects to interact with the rest of the various advisory and consultant teams?
3. Describe how your team expects to develop a credible financial plan by Jan 2011? What are the key issues to consider and what major hurdles do you expect to deal with?
4. There is a fundamental underlying assumption of a substantial Federal capital contribution to make this project viable. What do you see as the best vehicles for obtaining this contribution? If a vehicle has yet to be established, what do you see as the most viable strategy to accomplish this? What ways, if any, do you see for drawing on FTA public transit, highway or aviation capital funding mechanisms already in place?
5. In looking ahead to the construction/implementation phase, what do you see as the most critical roles for the financing plan consultant and how do you envision your team structure evolving to fulfill those roles? How do you envision your interaction with, and dependence on, other entities?
6. While there are already many successful realizations of large rail infrastructure projects in Europe and Asia, how do you see those financing approaches having application in California? Will you be able to provide comparable data for these other lines, including both those that pay for their own operations and those that do not, and what the differences are?
7. When passenger rail is brought up in the US and California in particular, some opinion leaders will jump to the AMTRAK experience and attempt to draw parallels of potential financial failure. How would you put it into context relative to your understanding of the California vision and successful HSR implementations worldwide? Is it realistic to expect a passenger rail service to be able to operate without public subsidy? Upon what is this contingent?
8. What is your experience with funding large infrastructure projects based on the Public Private Partnership model? What amount of Private funding do you believe would be applicable to the \$43B Phase 1 of the CHSRA project? What sources of private funding would you envisage?
9. What further funding do you believe can be obtained from local authorities related to joint real estate and station developments?